

## Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) An electronic cash register system comprising:  
a display controller having a display and an electronic cash register, said display controller includes:

~~receiving means for receiving order data from said electronic cash register, said order data including the number of articles;~~

first means for obtaining the number of sold articles ordered for a just before preceding unit interval in response to said order data from said receiving means, the number of sold articles being sent from the electronic cash register;

second means for obtaining the number of stocked articles for said just before preceding unit interval;

third means for obtaining the number of pending articles to be prepared for said just before preceding unit interval;

fourth means for obtaining the averaged number of articles sold for a just before prior interval including consecutive just before preceding unit intervals using said first means;

prediction means for predicting the number of articles, ~~to be prepared which is necessary~~ after a predetermined interval, in accordance with ~~data from said first to fourth means~~ the number of sold articles obtained by the first means, the number of stocked articles obtained by the second means, the number of pending articles obtained by the third means and the average number of articles obtained by the fourth means; and

displaying display control means for ~~displaying result of said predicted the number on said display~~ controlling the display to display the number of articles predicted by the predicting means.

2. (Withdrawn) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said order data further includes a type of said articles and said display controller further comprises:

specifying means response to an operation by a user for specifying each type of said articles as to whether the number of each type of said articles is predicted by said prediction means.

3. (Withdrawn) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said order data further includes a type of said articles and said display controller further comprises: setting means for setting the tentative number of each type of said articles, which is used by said prediction means until said fourth means can obtain the average number of articles sold for said interval.

4. (Withdrawn) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 3, wherein said display controller further comprises: a plurality of setting means, each for setting the different prospective number of each type of said articles, which is used by said prediction means until said fourth means can obtain the average number of articles sold for said interval, and selecting means for selectively supplying to said fourth means the different prospective number of each type of said articles from one of said setting means selected in accordance with a condition.

5. (Withdrawn) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said display controller further comprises a maximum number setting means for setting and storing the maximum number for said articles, wherein said displaying means displays said result when the number of articles does not exceed said maximum number and displays said maximum number of said articles when said result exceeds said maximum number.

6. (Withdrawn) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said display controller further comprises:

second displaying means for displaying data of articles ordered from said electronic cash register;

mode switching means for switching a first display mode by said display means using said prediction means and a second display mode by said second display means and in response to a display mode switching signal.

7. (Withdrawn) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said display controller further comprises:

setting means for setting a time zone of operating said prediction means;

clock means for generating a time signal representing the present time;

mode switching signal generation means for generating said display mode switching signal when said present time is at said time zone.

8. (Withdrawn) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said display controller further comprises: mode switching signal generation means for generating said display mode switching signal in response to a rotary switch connected to said video kitchen controller.

9. (Withdrawn) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said display controller further comprises:

setting means for setting a plurality of different time zones; selecting means for selecting one of said different time zones in response to a selection signal;

clock means for generating a time signal representing the present time; and

mode switching signal generation means for generating said display mode switching signal when said present time is at said selected one of said different time zone.

10. (Withdrawn) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said electronic cash register further comprises:

display mode switching signal generation means for generating a display mode switching signal in response to switching command; and

transmission means for transmitting said display mode switching signal and said display controller further comprises:

receiving means for receiving said display mode switching signal to supply said display mode switching signal to said mode switching means.

11. (Withdrawn) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said display controller further comprises:

historic data storing means for storing said data as historic data; and

outputting means for outputting said historic data in response to an output command.

12. (Withdrawn) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 11, wherein said outputting means includes transmission means for transmitting said historic data in response to said output command, said electronic cash register further includes receiving means for receiving said historic data and printing means for printing said historic data.

13. (Withdrawn) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 11, wherein said display controller further comprises: historic data display means for displaying said historic data from said historic data storing means in response to a key switch.

14. (Withdrawn) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said display controller further comprises:

storing means for storing group codes, each code indicating resemble types of said articles, and said displaying means displaying said result at different areas in accordance with said group codes.

15. (Withdrawn) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said display controller includes:

stocked article data storing means for storing the number of articles of which the number is predicted by said prediction means;

time limit storing means for storing time limit data of said articles;

passage time measuring means for measuring passed time of said articles of which the number is predicted by said prediction means;

judging means for judging whether said measured passed time of said articles exceeds said time limit data; and

subtracting means for subtracting the number of articles judged that said measured passed time exceeds said time limit data from the number of stocked articles.

16. (Withdrawn) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said display controller further comprises:

display mode switching signal generation means for generating said display mode switching signal in response to a key switch connected to said video kitchen controller.

17 (Withdrawn) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said clock means further generates a date signal indicative of a day of a week, and said selection signal selects one of said different time zone in response to said date signal as said selection signal.

18. (Withdrawn) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 11, wherein said outputting means includes a recording means for recording said historic data in a recording medium.

19. (Currently amended) An electronic cash register system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said predetermined interval agrees with said ~~just before~~ preceding unit interval in length.